



Repeater: NØDX 145.190 MHz (Input 144.590 / Tone 192.8 Hz)



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The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 316, March 6, 2026

Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active; articles that are announcements of ongoing operations, or that have no specified end date, will be removed after three weeks.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section (updated as conditions warrant) and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

This bulletin is available via email subscription only. See

<http://www.arrl.org/bulletins> to subscribe. (The online archive is no longer updated.)

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

[Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

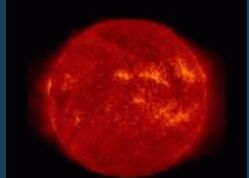
Dr. Tony Phillips' [SpaceWeather.com](#), used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)



Solar-Terrestrial Data

07 Mar 2026 1816 GMT
SFI:143 SN: 75
A-Index: 2
K-Index: 2
X-Ray: B6.2
304A: 124.0 @ SEM
Ptn Flx: 9
Elc Flx: 2670
Aurora: 4/n=1.99
Mag (Bz): 2.5
Solar Wind: 611.4
Geomag Field QUIET
Sig Noise Lvl S1-S2
Current Solar Image



<http://www.nonbh.com>
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5449

DX News

3B8, MAURITIUS. Matt, DL5PT, is QRV as **3B8/DL5PT** from Flic-en-Flac **until the end of March**.

Activity is in his spare time on 20 through 10 meters using FT8. QSL to [DL5PT](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 29, 2026] (0130-0327)

3B8, MAURITIUS I. Suvarna, VU3OPT (OMØGA) is currently QRV as **3B8G** from Mauritius Island (AF-049) **until March 30th**. He operates CW and has been reported on 20, 15 and especially 10 meters so far. See <https://www.9n7ga.com/> for more information.

-[425DXN # 1817 February 28, 2026] (0227-0403)

3Y, BOUVET. Team **3YØK** has been QRV from Bouvet Island on multiple bands **since March 1st**. Depending on weather, operations are expected to continue **until March 18th or 20th**. QSOs are being uploaded to [MØOXO's OQRS](#), as well as to [ClubLog](#): "the team leaders have opted against using real-time livestreaming, as unreliable internet connections are causing data corruption during uploads".

According to <https://www.m0oxo.com/oqrs/logsearch.php>, as of March 5th at 0916 UTC, 3YØK had made 24,180 QSOs (56% on FT8) with 12,476 unique callsigns. A SuperFox key has been issued; however, the team has decided to continue using Fox & Hound on FT8.

-[425DXN # 1818 March 7, 2026] (0306-0313)

4S, SRI LANKA. Peter, DCØKK is QRV as **4S7KKG** **until March 31st**. Activity is on 60 through 6 meters using FT8, and on Satellite QO-100. QSL to [DCØKK](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 3 January 22, 2026] (0123-0403)

4X, ISRAEL. Special event station **4ZØ1A** will be active on **March 6th-7th** from the archaeological site of the ancient city of Ashkelon (Holyland Square C19-AS, WWL KM71gp). This will be the first of four activations from the "Biblical cities from the David and Goliath period"; 4XØ1A (Ashod), 4XØ1E (Ekron) and 4XØ1G will follow (dates TBA). QSL via [4X6ZM](#).

-[425DXN # 1817 February 28, 2026] (0306-0313)

5N, NIGERIA. Bodo, DF8DX, is due to perform service tasks at the Voice of Nigeria Broadcasting site from **March 1st to 10th**. QRV as **5N7QBR** with 100W and possibly the large BC transmit antennas.

Bodo also uses the QO-100 satellite. QSL via [DF8DX](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2499 February 25, 2026] (0227-0313)

8Q, MALDIVES. Alex, OE5AUH, operates as **8Q7AH** **until March 10th**.

-[DXNL # 2500 March 4, 2026] (0306-0313)

8Q, MALDIVES. Lubo, OM5ZW and Laco, OM4WM will be QRV as **8Q7ZW** from Thulusdhoo Island (AS-013) from **February 28th to March 12th**. Activity will be on 160 through 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 8 February 26, 2026] (0227-0313)

9G, GHANA. Arno, DL1CW, planned to continue operating as **9G5ZZ** **until March 3rd** but is now **off the air** due to a broken transceiver. His operating permit is good until 2031 and he hopes to return to Ghana eventually for more QSOs.

-[DXNL # 2499 February 25, 2026] (0227-0313)

9M2, WEST MALAYSIA. Mike, **9M2/KM9D** has been casual operating from Teluk Kelubi Beach on Rebak Island (AS-058), West Malaysia since February 13th. **Length of stay unknown**. He operates CW low power (10 watts) on various bands. QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1817 February 28, 2026] (0227-0320)

9Y, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO. Yuri, N2TTA, plans to be QRV as **9Z4BM** as a Single/Op entry in the ARRL SSB DX contest (**March 7th-8th**). QSL to [N2TTA](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 9 March 5, 2026] (0306-0313)

DL, GERMANY. Special callsign **DA26WARD** by the DARC Team SES promotes World Amateur Radio Day from **March 1st until April 30th**. WARD is celebrated annually on April 18th, the day when the IARU was formed in 1925. The theme for this year's WARD is "Advancing the Spirit of Amateur Radio Through Innovation". QSL via LoTW, [DK5ON](#), and DCL (DARC Community Logbook).

-[425DXN # 1818 March 7, 2026] (0306-0501)

DL, GERMANY. Celebrating a half-century of German research in Antarctica, special callsigns **DAØANT**, **DM5ØANT** and **DP5ØANT** will be active from **February 15th to April 30th**. In addition, **DM5ØGFS** will also be active on **April 1st-30th** (for the 50th anniversary of the Georg Forster Station, established by the GDR in 1976 and decommissioned in 1993), as well as **DP2ØØGVN** (for the bicentenary of the birth of Georg von Neumayer, after whom three German Antarctic research stations have been named). See <https://50ant.hamaward.de/en/german-antarctic-research/> for complete information on the "50 Years of German Antarctic Research" award.

-[425DXN # 1814 February 7, 2026] (0213-0501)

DL, GERMANY. To celebrate the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games Milano Cortina 2026, the DARC Team SES will be active as **DD2Ø26OWG** (February 1st - March 1st) and **DD2Ø26WPG** (March 1st - April 1st). QSL via [DK5ON](#), LoTW and DCL (DARC Community Logbook).
-[425DXN # 1811 January 17, 2026] (0130-0403)

DU, PHILIPPINES. Hrane, YT1AD (N9YU), Sergey, R7KW, and Steva, YU3AA (NS3A), will be active in the Philippines as **DU6/N9YU** and **DU6/NS3A** on March 4th-12th using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL DU6/N9YU via [YT1AD](#), DU6/NS3A via [YU3AA](#).
-[DXNL # 2500 March 4, 2026] (0306-0313)

DXCC TOP TWENTY. Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of March 5, 2026:

1. P5	DPRK (North Korea)	11. KH4	Midway Island
2. KH3	Johnston Island	12. VKØM	Macquarie Island
3. KH7K	Kure Island	13. EZ	Turkmenistan
4. CEØX	San Felix Islands	14. KP5	Desecheo Island
5. FT5/X	Kerguelen Island	15. PYØS	Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
6. BS7H	Scarborough Reef	16. VPØS	South Sandwich Islands
7. 3Y/P	Peter 1 Island	17. YK	Syria
8. YVØ	Aves Island	18. ZL9	New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
9. BV9P	Pratas Island	19. FT/T	Tromelin Island
10. 3Y/B	Bouvet Island	20. VKØH	Heard Island

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>

-[KØCF March 6, 2026 (0306-0327)

EA8, CANARY IS. Jeff, VA3QSL, is now active as **EA8/VA3QSL** until March 8th. QSL via [VA3QSL](#), LoTW.
-[DXNL # 2499 February 25, 2026] (0227-0313)

ET, ETHIOPIA. Ethiopian Amateur Radio Society station **ET3AA** has been active on 30 meters FT8 between 0400 and 0530z. QSL via [N2OO](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 19, 2026] (0220-0313)

F, FRANCE. The radio club Rambouillet F6KKR celebrates its 50th anniversary with the callsign **TM5ØKKR** on Saturdays only from March until June.
-[DXNL # 2499 February 25, 2026] (0306-0410)

FG, GUADELOUPE. Stefan, HB9JAB, operates holiday-style as **FG/HB9JAB** from March 7th to 12th and then again March 20th to 27th. QRV on 20-10m (SSB, FT8). He also plans to pay Dominica (J7) a visit. QSL via LoTW, eQSL.
-[DXNL # 2500 March 4, 2026] (0306-0327)

FJ, ST. BARTHELEMY. Andreas, DK6AS is QRV as **FJ/DK6AS** until sometime in March. Activity is on 80 through 6 meters using CW, FT8, and FT4. This includes being an entry in the ARRL CW DX contest (February 21st-22nd). QSL via [DK6AS](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 19, 2026] (0220-0313)

FM, MARTINIQUE. Francis, F6BWJ, is QRV as **FM/F6BWJ** from Sainte Luce until March 23rd. Activity is mostly on 12 and 10 meters using CW. QSL via LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 12, 2026] (0213-0327)

H4, SOLOMON IS. Bernhard, DL2GAC, will be QRV as **H44MS** from Manakwai Village on Malaita Island (OC-047) from January 18th to April 15th. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL to [DL2GAC](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 15, 2026] (0116-0417)

HR, HONDURAS. Gerard, F2JD remains active as **HR5/F2JD** until March 12th. QSL via [F6AJA](#).
-[DXNL # 2500 March 4, 2026] (0306-0313)

HS, THAILAND. Jean-Pierre, HB9TOR, stays on the air as **HSØZOC** until March 7th on CW, SSB, FT8. He then returns to Switzerland and hopes to be back in Thailand at the end of 2026.
-[DXNL # 2500 March 4, 2026] (0306-0313)

I, ITALY. Members of ARI Milano, ARI Cadore and ARI Brunico/Bruneck will activate four special callsigns **I12WOG**, **I13COR**, **I13WOG**, and **I13BIA** from **February 6th to March 22nd** for the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games Milano Cortina 2026. Certificates and eQSLs will be available on <https://hamaward.cloud/>. QSL I12WOG via [I02MI](#), I13COR via [I03DD](#), I13WOG and I13BIA via [I03ED](#).
-[425DXN # 1810 January 10, 2026] (0206-0327)

J5, GUINEA-BISSAU. A group of operators are QRV as **J51A** from Bubaque Island (AF-020) **until March 15th**. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. See <https://www.qrz.com/db/J51A> for updates. QSL via [DJ4MX](#) or [ClubLog's OQRS](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 8 February 26, 2026] (0227-0320)

J7, DOMINICA. Haluk, TA2LE will be active as **J79H** from Dominica (NA-101) on **March 10th-26th**, and again **periodically until March 2027**. This will be a recurring activation based on business travel. He will operate CW, SSB and FT8 (F/H) on 40-10 meters. See <https://j79h.ta2le.tr/> for more information and updates. QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW and ClubLog. QSL via [M0OXO's OQRS](#).
-[425DXN # 1817 February 28, 2026] (0306-0327)

JD1/M, MINAMI TORISHIMA. Take, **JG8NQJ/JD1** expects to be back to the weather station on Minami Torishima (OC-073) from **February 26th until mid-May**. In his limited spare time, he will operate mainly CW with some FT8 (note that he wants you to call with your signal report, not your grid square). QSL via [JA8CJY](#) (direct), JG8NQJ (bureau) and LoTW.
-[425DXN # 1815 February 14, 2026] (0220-0508)

KH2, GUAM. A group of operators will be QRV as **AH2R** as a Multi/Op entry in the ARRL SSB DX contest (**March 7th-8th**). QSL via LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 9 March 5, 2026] (0306-0313)

KH6, HAWAII. Fred, NA2U will be QRV as **KH7M** in both ARRL International DX contests: CW on **February 21st-22nd** and SSB on **March 7th-8th**. QSL direct to [NA2U](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 19, 2026] (0220-0313)

LU, ARGENTINA. Members of the Radio Club QRM Belgrano will be active as **LU4AAO** and other callsigns from **February 28th to March 8th** to celebrate the club's 58th anniversary. See http://lu4aao.org/58_aniv_lu4aao.htm for more information. Awards and a special QSL are available.
-[425DXN # 1816 February 21, 2026] (0227-0313)

LZ, BULGARIA. Special callsign **LZ75HSC** by the Bulgarian Highspeed Club celebrates the 75th anniversary of the Radio Telegraphy Highspeed Club (HSC) **until the end of the year**. The club was founded in 1951 as a community within the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club (DARC). To date, membership has grown to include over 1,400 operators spanning every continent:
<http://www.highspeedclub.org>. QSL via [LZ2JE](#).
-[425DXN # 1818 March 7, 2026] (0306-0327)

OZ, DENMARK. Special callsign **OZ1000OZ** commemorates the first licensed Danish amateur radio activity 100 years ago. QRV **March 1st to 8th**. For more information see:
<https://www.qrz.com/db/OZ100OZ>. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#) (preferred), or [OZ1ACB](#).
-[DXNL # 2499 February 25, 2026] (0227-0313)

PJ2, CURACAO. Thaire, W2APF will be active as **PJ2/W2APF** from Curacao (SA-099) from **January 22nd to March 31st**. He will operate CW, SSB and FT8 on 80-10 meters. QSL via LoTW, or direct to [W2APF](#).
-[425DXN # 1811 January 17, 2026] (0116-0403)

PJ4, BONAIRE. A group of operators will be QRV as **PJ4G** in the ARRL SSB DX contest (**March 7th-8th**) as a Multi/2 entry. QSL via LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 9 March 5, 2026] (0306-0313)

PJ4, BONAIRE. Britt, WD8R, remains active as **PJ4/WD8R** **until March 9th**. QRV mostly during morning and evening hours on 40, 20, 15m (CW, SSB, maybe also FT8). QSL only via LoTW.
-[DXNL # 2500 March 4, 2026] (0306-0313)

PJ7, SINT MAARTEN. Tom, AA9A will be active again as **PJ7AA** from Sint Maarten (NA-105) from **March 8th to April 4th**. He will operate CW, FT8, FT4 and some SSB on 40-6 meters. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW, or direct to [AA9A](#).

-[425DXN # 1817 February 28, 2026] (0306-0403)

PYØF, FERNANDO DE NORONHA. Conrad, DL7UE is currently on a family vacation on Fernando de Noronha (SA-003) and is active on QO-100 as **PYØF/PY5ZUE** **until March 7th**. QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1818 March 7, 2026] (0306-0313)

SV, GREECE. Special callsign **SZ4ØA** celebrates "forty years of continuous presence, service, and contribution to amateur radio" by the Radio Amateur Association of Western Greece (SZ1A). Look for activity across multiple HF bands and modes from March 1st to May 31st. See <https://awards.sz1a.org> for the award program. QSL via [ON3UN](#).

-[425DXN # 1818 March 7, 2026] (0306-0327)

T8, PALAU. Czech DXpedition Team members OK1BOA, OK2ZA, OK3RM and OK6DJ will be active as **T8OK** from Palau on **March 4th-19th**. They will operate CW, FT8, SSB and RTTY on 160-10 meters, plus 6m. Full LoTW upload after six months. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#) (preferred), or via [OK6DJ](#).

-[425DXN # 1815 February 14, 2026] (0227-0320)

TY, BENIN. Red, DL1BUG is QRV as **TY5FR** from Cotonou **until April 5th**. Activity is on 80 through 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to [DL1BUG](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 9 March 5, 2026] (0306-0410)

TY, BENIN. Gerard, F5NVF, is QRV as **TY5GG** **until April 6th**. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 29, 2026] (0130-0410)

V3, BELIZE. Paula, OK2YL and Vlad, OK2WX will be active holiday style as **V31YL** and **V31WX**, respectively, from IOTA group NA-073, Belize on **March 9th-22nd**. They will operate SSB, CW and FT8 on various bands. QSL via [I8KHC](#).

-[425DXN # 1818 March 7, 2026] (0306-0327)

V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS. John, W5JON will be active as **V47JA** from St. Kitts (NA-104) on **March 10th-18th**. He will operate SSB and FT8 on various bands. QSL via LoTW, or direct only to [W5JON](#).

-[425DXN # 1817 February 28, 2026] (0306-0320)

V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS. Thomas, KØYA, and Antoinette, W5RCX, are QRV as **V4/KØYA** and **V4/W5RCX**, respectively, **until March 9th**. They will be active as **V47Y** in the ARRL SSB DX contest (March 7th-8th). QSL all callsigns via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 9 March 5, 2026] (0306-0320)

V5, NAMIBIA. Gunter, DK2WH is QRV as **V51WH** near Omaruru **until March 24th**. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters, including 60 meters. QSL to [DK2WH](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 8 February 26, 2026] (0227-0327)

VE, CANADA. Pierre, VK3KTB will be active again as **VYØERC** from the Eureka Amateur Radio Club station on Ellesmere Island (NA-008) from **March 5th to April 1st**. He operates SSB, CW and FT8 on various bands when time permits. QSL via [MØOXO's OQRS](#) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1817 February 28, 2026] (0227-0403)

VP2E, ANGUILLA. Jacek MØPLX, Janusz SP9FIH, and teenager Adrian SQ2RAD will be active as **VP2ELX**, **VP2EWE**, **VP2EAD** and respectively from Anguilla (NA-022) on **March 3-20**. They will operate SSB, CW and digital modes on 160-6 meters. See <https://vp2.dxpedititions.org/> for more information. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1815 February 14, 2026] (0227-0320)

VP8/O,LU, SOUTH ORKNEY IS. Ramon, LU1DMZ expects to be active as **LU1DMZ/Z** and **LU1ZA** from Base Orcadas on Laurie Island, South Orkney Islands (AN-008) **throughout 2026**.

-[425DXN # 1818 March 7, 2026] (0306-0327)

VP9, BERMUDA. Darrell, AB2E will be active as **AB2E/VP9** from Bermuda (NA-005) on **March 4th-10th**. Main activity will be as **VP9I** during the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 7th-8th). Before and after the contest he will operate CW, RTTY and FT8 with a focus on the low and WARC bands. QSL AB2E/VP9 via LoTW, or direct to [AB2E](#); QSL VP9I via [WW3S](#).
-[425DXN # 1817 February 28, 2026] (0227-0313)

YU, SERBIA. Special event station **YT17ØTESLA** celebrates Nikola Tesla's 170th birthday **until the end of the year**.
-[DXNL # 2499 February 25, 2026] (0227-0320)

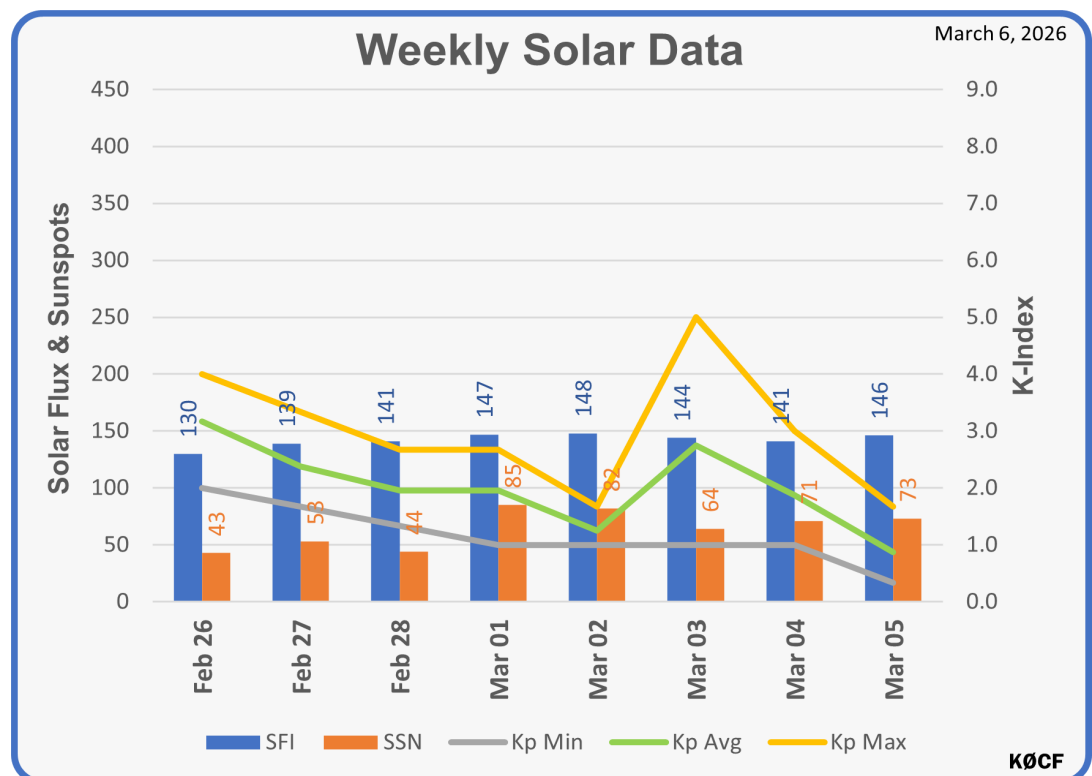
Z8, SOUTH SUDAN. Diya, YI1DZ, after a brief vacation in Bagdad, returns to Juba and resumes his activities as **Z81D** on SSB and FT8, 80-10 meters, including 60 meters. QSL via [OM3JW](#).
-[DXNL # 2499 February 25, 2026] (0227-0320)

ZC4, UK SOVEREIGN BASE AREAS ON CYPRUS. The **March 4th-11th ZC4C** and **ZC4Z** operation from the UK SBA on Cyprus has been **cancelled** at the very last minute due to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East. "We have no problem using radio in the area", the team says, "but we can't physically get there".
-[425DXN # 1818 March 7, 2026] (0306-0313)

ZF, CAYMAN IS. Colin, G4CWH will be active as **ZF2CA** from the Cayman Islands (NA-016) on **March 12th-17th**, with main activity during the Commonwealth Contest. Outside the contest he will be "on most bands and modes". QSL via [G4CWH](#).
-[425DXN # 1818 March 7, 2026] (0306-0320)

ZF, CAYMAN IS. A group of operators will be QRV as **ZF5T** in the ARRL SSB DX contest (**March 7th-8th**). Before the contest, look for **ZF2/N5EE** and **ZF2EZ** to be active. QSL ZF2/N5EE via [N5EE](#) and ZF2EZ via [W5SJ](#). QSL ZF2T via [K5GO](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 9 March 5, 2026] (0306-0313)

Propagation



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-index (Kp) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

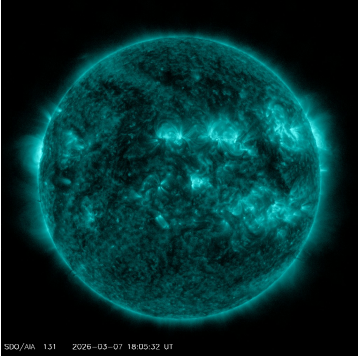
The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wave-length of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Thursday, February 26th through Thursday, March 5th.

The average solar flux was 144, up 27 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 148 on Monday, March 2nd, following a low of 130 on February 26th.

The average sunspot count was 67, up 51 from last week, peaking at 85 on Sunday, March 1st after a weekly low of 43 on February 26th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 3.0 with a maximum of 5.0 on Tuesday, March 3rd, indicating a minor geomagnetic storm. The most recent K-index maximum was 1.7 with generally quiet conditions.

Solar flare activity since February 27th has been quiet with no major flares.

Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Friday, February 27th through 1444 UTC, March 6th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
None Reported			

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Mar 6	20%	1%	145
Mar 7	20%	1%	140
Mar 8	20%	1%	135

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on March 2, 2026).

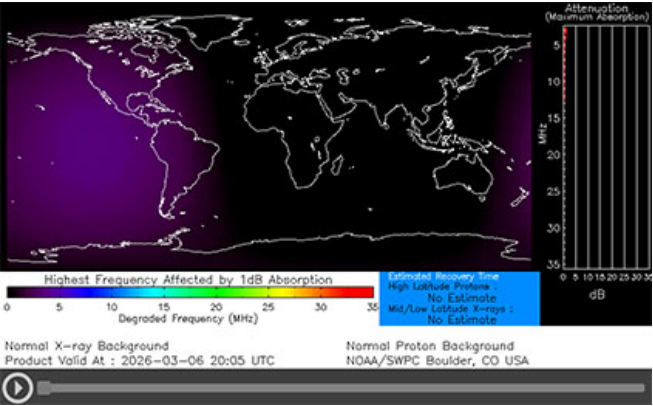
Date	Flux	Kp
Mar 6	158	3
Mar 7	156	2
Mar 8	156	3
Mar 9	150	3

Date	Flux	Kp
Mar 10	145	4
Mar 11	140	3
Mar 12	135	4
Mar 13	128	3

Date	Flux	Kp
Mar 14	125	4
Mar 15	120	4
Mar 16	118	3
Mar 17	115	3

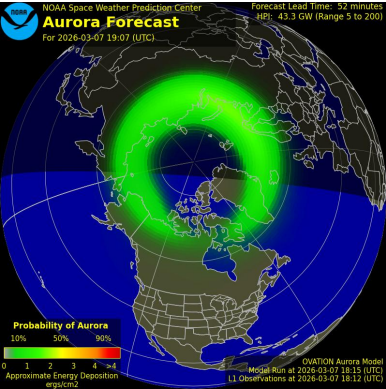
Global D Region Absorption

Conditions in the D-region of the ionosphere have a dramatic effect on HF communications. The D-Region Absorption map combines the effects of solar particles and photons. Yellow to red colors on the map depict increasing signal attenuation, where the bar chart at the right displays attenuation versus frequency. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of D-Region Absorption:



The Aurora Borealis

The aurora is not only beautiful to see but can have a profound impact on HF and VHF radio propagation. For the HF operator, auroras can result in a complete shut-down of propagation. However, on VHF, auroras present interesting DX possibilities. Beam antennas are very desirable and should be pointed north, towards the aurora. Signals are reflected by “back-scatter” and will be distorted with a rough buzz. SSB is the best voice mode to use, but copy can be difficult. CW will have a rough buzzy sound but be perfectly copyable. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of aurora versus time:



Highs for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 336 on August 8, 2024.
Sunspots: 382 on August 10, 2024.

Popular Propagation web sites

<https://prop.kc2g.com/> (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>
<https://www.spaceweather.com/>
<https://www.solarham.com/>
<https://dx.gsl.net/propagation/>

A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!

(Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources.)

Contest Calendar

Weekly Contests

Contest	Start UTC		End	Web Site
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	Rules
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z	
CWops Test (CWT)	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z	
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	Rules
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	Rules

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000 UTC is Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Central Daylight Saving Time zone, or

Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central Standard Time zone.

Full Calendar

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	Mar 7	0000Z	Mar 8	2400Z	Rules
Oklahoma QSO Party	Mar 14	1400Z	Mar 15	2100Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Mar 14	1500Z	Mar 15	1500Z	Rules
Idaho QSO Party	Mar 14	1900Z	Mar 15	1900Z	Rules
North American Sprint, RTTY	Mar 15	0000Z	Mar 15	0359Z	Rules
Wisconsin QSO Party	Mar 15	1800Z	Mar 16	0100Z	Rules
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	Mar 21	0200Z	Mar 23	0200Z	Rules
Russian DX Contest	Mar 21	1200Z	Mar 22	1200Z	Rules
Virginia QSO Party	Mar 21	1400Z	Mar 22	2400Z	Rules
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	Mar 28	0000Z	Mar 29	2400Z	Rules
Louisiana QSO Party	Apr 4	1400Z	Apr 5	0200Z	Rules
SP DX Contest	Apr 4	1500Z	Apr 5	1500Z	Rules
QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party	Apr 11	0000Z	Apr 11	2359Z	Rules
JIDX CW Contest	Apr 11	0700Z	Apr 12	1300Z	Rules
OK/OM DX Contest, SSB	Apr 11	1200Z	Apr 12	1159Z	Rules
New Mexico QSO Party	Apr 11	1400Z	Apr 12	0200Z	Rules
Georgia QSO Party	Apr 11	1800Z	Apr 12	2359Z	Rules
CQMM DX Contest	Apr 18	0900Z	Apr 19	2359Z	Rules
Michigan QSO Party	Apr 18	1600Z	Apr 19	0400Z	Rules
Ontario QSO Party	Apr 18	1800Z	Apr 19	1800Z	Rules
Quebec QSO Party	Apr 19	1200Z	Apr 19	2200Z	Rules
ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	Apr 19	1800Z	Apr 19	2359Z	Rules
Florida QSO Party	Apr 25	1600Z	Apr 26	2159Z	Rules
7th Call Area QSO Party	May 2	1300Z	May 3	0700Z	Rules
Indiana QSO Party	May 2	1600Z	May 3	0400Z	Rules
Delaware QSO Party	May 2	1700Z	May 3	2359Z	Rules
New England QSO Party	May 2	2000Z	May 3	2400Z	Rules
CQ-M International DX Contest	May 9	1200Z	May 10	1159Z	Rules
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	May 16	1200Z	May 17	1200Z	Rules
Arkansas QSO Party	May 16	1400Z	May 17	0200Z	Rules
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	May 30	0000Z	May 31	2400Z	Rules
Atlantic Canada QSO Party	Jun 6	1200Z	Jun 7	0200Z	Rules
Kentucky QSO Party	Jun 6	1300Z	Jun 7	0100Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. Digital Contest	Jun 6	1800Z	Jun 7	2400Z	Rules

(Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#))

